



Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona
José de Jesus Rivera

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Information Contact Public Affairs

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INS BORDER INSPECTOR INDICTED ON TAX EVASION CHARGES

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- RONNIE JOSEPH BRICKEY, 29, an inspector with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), stationed at the San Luis Port of Entry, was arrested today by Special Agents from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General.

BRICKEY was indicted by a federal grand jury on August 18, 1999, on one count of Evasion of Assessment and one count of Filing a False Return. The indictment alleges that on April 15, 1998, the defendant filed a false claim with the Internal Revenue Service for the 1997 tax year. The defendant claimed his taxable income as \$25,315.00, with \$4,413.00 in taxes due to the IRS. The defendant is accused of knowing that his taxable income was \$149,730.70, and the taxes owed on that sum was \$46,448.71.

The maximum penalty for Tax Evasion is 5 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both and the maximum penalty for Filing a False Return is 3 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Mr. Rivera stressed that an indictment is simply a method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and an individual's guilt is only established upon conviction.

The investigation that led to the successful prosecution in this case was conducted by Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service and Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General.

CASE NUMBER:CR-99-698-PHX-EHC

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